

STATE RECORDS OFFICE — STATE LIBRARY — ADMINISTRATION

2781. Mr A. Krsticevic to the Minister for Culture and the Arts:

I refer to the comments in the ‘Western Australian Public Libraries: Our Future’, Background Paper that there is the potential to disaggregate the State Records Office (SRO) from its current administrative placement in the State Library of Western Australia, due to its alignment with the direction of digital transformation of Government information led by the Office of the Government Chief Information Officer, and ask:

- (a) why are you considering a further move of the SRO;
- (b) how would such a move benefit the state;
- (c) how does such a move reconcile with the benefits of a combined service for heritage materials;
- (d) is consideration being given to splitting the heritage and recordkeeping functions of the SRO; and
- (e) will the SRO and State Records Commission be consulted before any such move is considered?

Mr D.A. Templeman replied:

- (a) The Background Paper was developed to support the draft WA Public Libraries Strategy which was opened for public consultation and therefore canvassed a number of options. It is consistent with the directions set out in the Priority Service Review that recommended greater use of digitisation to deliver services and advice based on data, emerging trends and empirical decisions. The findings of the consultation on the *WA Public Libraries Strategy: A New Chapter for Our Public Library System* has not been finalised. It is expected that advice on the new roles, if any, of public libraries will be finalised in late 2018.
- (b)–(e) Not applicable.